

● **FINAL NOTICE—WAC Rules (effective Jan 18, 2001) MANDATORY April 18, 2001**

Chapter 296-46A WAC—*Safety Standards-Installing Electrical Wires and Equipment-Administrative Rules* was effective January 18th. **Contractors and installers have until April 18, 2001 to come into full compliance with these rules.** Until then our electrical inspectors will allow installations to meet requirements as outlined in either the old chapter 296-46 WAC or the new chapter 296-46A WAC, but not a mixture of both. This transition period is intended to give contractors and installers a chance to obtain a copy of the rules and become familiar with all the rule revisions before the department requires full compliance. Published rules are available now on the electrical website.

● **Stakeholders Meetings**

The department is again offering 4 Continuing Education Units (CEU's) for those who attend the meetings and successfully complete a take-home open book examination.

**Stakeholder Meeting Schedule**

April 4, 2001	Walla Walla College, Canaday Bldg. #128, <b>College Place</b> , WA.	6 PM-8 PM
April 5, 2001	Benton County PUD Auditorium, 10 <sup>th</sup> & Hwy 395, <b>Kennewick</b> , WA.	6 PM-8 PM
April 10, 2001	Tukwila Labor & Industries Office, 12806 Gateway Dr., <b>Tukwila</b> , WA.	7 PM-9 PM
April 11, 2001	Snohomish Co. PUD Auditorium, 2320 California Street, <b>Everett</b> , WA.	7 PM-9 PM

● **Automatic E-mail Notification System is Back Up and Running**

The electrical program has a one-way newsgroup (*Electrical News Announcements*) that allows all electrical stakeholders to receive automatic e-mail notification of events and issues. We now have the ability to include attachments (usually in Adobe .PDF format) and hyperlinks in these e-mail notices. We will be using this service extensively for sending out the *ELECTRICAL CURRENTS* newsletter, RCW and WAC updates, policy updates, stakeholder meeting announcements and other pertinent information from the Electrical Program. This is the fastest and easiest way for our electrical construction industry stakeholders to receive important current information from us. We have only 380 subscribers today, we would like to have thousands by the end of the year.

**How do you become a subscriber?**

New users should go to <http://listserv.wa.gov/archives/electrical.html> and click on “**join or leave the list (or change settings)**”, then fill in your e-mail address and name. This procedure changed when the list server was upgraded. If you subscribed previously and have **not** received any messages, please go to this web-site and either modify your information or subscribe again.

● **Electrical Board Recruitment Extended**

**Three Electrical Board appointments are scheduled to expire on July 7, 2001.** The positions represent combination electrical/RCDD certified engineers, certified electricians, and telecommunications workers. Incumbent members and new interested qualified persons may apply for these positions. See the March 2001 *ELECTRICAL CURRENTS* for more information or contact Angie Wharton at (360) 902-5259 or Rhonnda Jenkins at (360) 902-5572. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, completed application form, and current resume to the office of the Chief Electrical Inspector, PO Box 44460, Olympia, WA 98504-4460, no later than May 31, 2001.

## ● Becoming a Licensed Electrical Contractor

Every electrical contractor must complete an application and pay the appropriate fee (\$216.25 for a two-year license period), must have a \$4,000 contractor's surety bond or assignment-of-savings account agreement with the department, and must assign a certified administrator with the appropriate specialty certificate. The administrator must be an owner/member of the firm or a full-time supervisory employee. An individual with administrator certification may only be assigned to one company at any given time. A certified electrical administrator may not perform "hands-on" electrical work unless they also have electrician certification.

There is an opportunity for unlicensed firms, doing work described in WAC 296-46A-930 as Domestic well (03A), Limited energy (06)-(residential sound only), HVAC/refrigeration limited energy system (06A), Nonresidential maintenance (07), Nonresidential lighting maintenance (07A), Residential maintenance (New-07B), and Door, window, gate and similar systems (New-10), to come into compliance with the electrical contracting law. Until December 31, 2001, these firms can appoint a temporary electrical administrator when applying for their initial electrical contractor license. This temporary administrator must be named as the **Designated Administrator** on the APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE.

The complete contractor's application packet must include:

- APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE (\$216.25-for two years)
- A TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATOR'S CERTIFICATE form (new form name is: ASSIGNMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR'S CERTIFICATE) (No fee for first assignment)
- An APPLICATION FOR ADMINISTRATOR'S EXAMINATION (\$91.50). The fee includes the cost of the first two-year administrator certificate.

When the application is accepted, the temporary administrator will be mailed a letter that gives them a temporary certificate number and instructs them how to contact the exam contractor (EXPERIOR). The temporary certificate is valid for twelve months after submitting the application. The applicant arranges their exam date and location and pays the examination fee (\$64.75 initial, \$75.75 re-test) directly to EXPERIOR. When EXPERIOR notifies the department that the applicant successfully completed the examination, we issue the two-year certificate. If the applicant fails to complete the exam in twelve months, the certificate expires and the contractor has 90 days to assign another full-time administrator (that has a valid certificate) to the company.

A test outline for the appropriate specialty administrator examination is provided to the applicant along with the notification letter verifying exam eligibility and assigning a temporary administrator certificate number. These outlines are also available on our website at: [www.lni.wa.gov/scs/electrical/testout.htm](http://www.lni.wa.gov/scs/electrical/testout.htm).

## ● Continuing Education Course (CEU's) Approval Update

**Effective immediately, the department will only accept CEU's for courses that are approved prior to attending. There will be no exceptions.** Individuals attending classes that are pending approval by the department will not receive CEU credit even though the classes may receive approval at a later date. It is important that all providers of electrical trade related courses, have their new classes or renewal of classes in and approved prior to their class start date. The effective date of the class will be the date we complete the approval process.

## ● Code Question of the Month

**This month's Code Question:** Each continuous-duty motor rated at more than \_\_\_\_ hp shall be protected from overload by an approved method (separate motor overload device, integral thermal protective device, etc.). A. ¼ B. ½ C. ¾ D. 1 ?

**Last month's Code Question:** Arc-fault circuit-interrupters (AFCI) are required in dwelling unit bedrooms as of? C. January 1, 2002. [NEC 210-12(B)]